

THE
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VOL. IX. No. 5.

NEW-YORK, January 29, 1876.

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NOTES IN SEASON.

THE Book Fair opens March 20th, and closes on the 24th, with a remainder auction sale. See announcement elsewhere.

MISS YONGE's new novel, "My Young Alcides," is an attempt to modernize the labors of Hercules, and has been well spoken of by the English critics. Macmillan & Co. have just ready an edition in one volume specially made for this market.

ROBERT CLARKE & Co. published the first thousand of the Poems of George D. Prentice some days since, but it was exhausted at once by the local orders, and Eastern readers have scarcely seen the book as yet. A second issue is about ready, and the country at large may then have its chance at the legacy of a famous writer of his day, whose poetical work is said to have qualities of permanence.

THE Harpers publish at once "The Devil's Chain," the temperance satire by Mr. Edward Jenkins, author of "Ginx's Baby." It makes a 12mo of 160 pages, with frontispiece and title-page by Nast, the latter representing His Satanic Majesty a-sitting on top of the wicked world, with his chain drawn tightly around it. Each chapter portrays a link in this chain, and the N. T. S. never published so thorough-going a temperance book. In fact, everybody in it seems to be a candidate for the inebriate asylum: Mr. Jenkins never minces matters. At the same time, this house will issue "Christmas Stories," in their Household Dickens, with new illustrations by Mr. E. A. Abbey.

PORTER & COATES will shortly issue in their popular International Series of Novels, "On Dangerous Ground," by Mrs. Bloomfield H.

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LOCKWOOD, BROOKS & Co. have in press a volume by the Rev. Washington Gladden, formerly of *The Independent*, on "Working People and their Employment," which is said to be a book likely to attract an unusual share of attention.

HARPER & BROS. have in press for publication next month the novel left incomplete by Bulwer-Lytton, a historical romance, called "Pausanias, the Spartan." Not quite half the novel was written when Lord Lytton died; but he left many notes for its completion, and these are given by his son in a long preface. The proofs, en route from the present Lord Lytton, in Lisbon, to the London publishers, met with a curious adventure. The mail steamer was wrecked on the voyage from Lisbon; but her mails were soon fished up, and among them were the proof-sheets of "Pausanias." They had dried, when they reached London, into a solid mass, and the printers had to bake them before the sheets could be parted.

MR. BURGESS' "American Kennel and Sporting Field," some time announced, can be looked for on the 1st. It is to give a sketch of the origin of sporting varieties of dogs, with hints on their breeding and management, list of imported dogs in this country, with pedigrees, etc., making a useful handbook for sporting men. Its publishers, J. B. Ford & Co., will also issue at the same time Mrs. Barr's "Romances and Realities," a collection of tales, sketches, and papers, of which some have already appeared in the papers.

THE Comte de Paris' "History of the Civil War in America" has reached its second edition already—a remarkable success on a book of its size and character.

TRADE MEETINGS.

WE shall be obliged to the secretaries of local trade associations if they will acquaint us with any changes of officers, or other matters of interest, occurring at the spring meetings of their organizations.

THE regular meeting of the Central Booksellers' Association, for the election of officers and the transaction of other business, will be held at the Stationers' Exchange, 694-6 Broadway, on Tuesday, February 8th.

ATLANTIC CITY or Cape May, Niagara Falls again, and Princeton, N. J., are so far suggested for the next Convention.

A THEOLOGIAN's criticism of some of the modern scientific theories is announced by Nelson & Phillips, under title of "The Modern Genesis," it being an inquiry into the credibility of the nebular theory of the origin of planetary bodies, the structure of the solar system, etc. The Rev. W. B. Slaughter is the author.

A VOLUME of special interest to "evangelicals," "Miscellanies, Old and New," by the Rev. John Cotton Smith, D.D., is to be published by T. Whittaker.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF BOOKS JUST PUBLISHED.

The Prices in this List are for cloth lettered, unless otherwise indicated. Imported books are marked with an asterisk : Authors' and Subscription Books, or Books published at net prices, with two asterisks.

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- Haverty's Irish-American Illustrated Almanac, 1876. 12°. Pap., 25 c. *Haverty.*
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 Silhouettes and Songs, Hinds.....Lockwood, B. & Co.
 Silver Mines in Kulu, Calvert.....Spon.
 Six to Sixteen, Ewing.....Roberts.
 Slide Valve, Burgh.....Spon.
 Songs for Little Folks.....Lothrop.
 Songs of Joy, Tenney.....Lee & S.
 Spanish Cavalier, A. L. O. E.....Carter.
 Squares, Tables of, Barlow.....Spon.
 Stair-Builders, American, Gould.....Bicknell.
 Steam, Condensation of, Burgh.....Spon.
 — Economy in the Use of, Salter.....Spon.
 — Boilers, Armstrong and Browne.....Spon.
 — Burgh.....Spon.
 Stick to the Raft, Gladstone.....Lothrop.
 Stockton, F. R., Tales out of School.....Scribner.
 Stowe, H. B., Betty's Bright Idea, and other Tales.....Ford.
 Strains on Bridge Girders, Cargill.....Spon.
 Stretton, H., Brought Home.....Dodd & M.
 — Wonderful Life.....Dodd & M.
 Sugar, Manufacture of, Soames.....Spon.
 Sugar Planter, Practical, Wray.....Spon.
 Sulphuric Acid, Smith.....Spon.
 Summer Days on the Hudson, Wise.....Nelson & P.
 Sunshine of Blackpool, Leslie.....Nelson & P.
 Surveying, Bowen.....Spon.
 — Merrett.....Spon.
 Swedenborg Library, ed. by B. F. Barrett.....Claxton.
 Swift, Dean, Life of, Forster.....Harper.
 Switches and Crossings, Donaldson.....Spon.
- Talmage, T. DeW., Preaching to the Masses.....Nelson & P.
 Telegraph Cables, Clarke and Sabine.....Spon.
 — Hoskicer.....Spon.
 Tell me a Story, Graham.....Macmillan.
 Testament, New, New Translation, McClellan.....Macmillan.
 Texas Scrap-Book, Baker.....Barnes.
 Theatre. See Christians.
 Theological Compend, Binney and Steele.....Nelson & P.
 Theology, Compendium of Evangel., Passmore.....Randolph.
 Three Little Brothers, Marshall.....Carter.
 Thrift, Smiles.....Harper.
 Timbers, Strength of, Lea.....Spon.
 Todd, John, Life of, J. E. Todd.....Harper.
 Together, Boyd.....Nelson & P.
 Tom's Opinion.....Lothrop.
 Trevithick, Richard, Life of.....Spon.
 Trophies of Song, Crafts.....Lothrop.
 Turbine, Cullen.....Spon.
 Turning, Campin.....Spon.
 Two Paths, Richmond.....Nelson & P.
 Tyndall, J., Belfast Address.....Appleton.
- United States, Civil Government in, Martin.....Barnes.
 — History. See Barnes.
 — See also Congress.
- Valve Gears (Müller's), Zeuner.....Spon.
 Verne, J., Mysterious Island.....Scribner.
 — Survivors of the Chancellor.....Osgood.
 Virgil, *Æneids*, Morris.....Roberts.
- Washington, George, Abbott.....Dodd & M.
 Watchwork, Treatise on, Nelthropp.....Spon.
 Watson, Independent Primary Reader.....Barnes.
 Wayland, F., Salvation by Christ.....Lothrop.
 Weights, Measures, and Money, Clarke.....Appleton.
 Wesley, J., Separation from Church of Eng.....Whittaker.
 Wesleyan Demosthenes (Beaumont), Wakeley.....Nelson & P.
 What is her Name? Edersheim.....Am. S. S. Un.
 Wheels, Teeth of, Camus.....Spon.
 White Hand, Farman.....Lothrop.
 Whittier, J. G., Songs of Three Centuries.....Osgood.
 Wide-Awake Pleasure-Book.....Lothrop.
 Williams, Voyage à Paris.....Lee & S.
 Wines, British, Robinson.....Spon.
 Winter Sunshine, Burroughs.....Hurd & H.
 With Harp and Crown.....Osgood.
 Woodworking Machines, Richards.....Spon.
 Workshop Receipts, Spon.....Spon.
- Yacht-Building, Marett.....Spon.
 Young Rick, Eastman.....Lothrop.

The Publishers' Weekly.

JANUARY 29, 1876.

PUBLISHERS are requested to furnish title-page proofs and advance information of books forthcoming, both for entry in the lists and for descriptive mention. An early copy of each book published should be forwarded, to insure correctness in the final entry and for notice in "Books Received."

The trade are invited to send "Communications" to the editor on any topic of interest to the trade, and as to which an interchange of opinion is desirable. Also, matter for "Notes and Queries." Notes from librarians will also be gratefully received.

In case of business changes, notification or card should be immediately sent to this office for entry under "Business Notes." New catalogues issued will also be mentioned when forwarded.

THE LESSON OF THE LAST FAILURE.

THE failures of the past fortnight may well give the trade pause. They can be no surprise to those who know that there are principles of business which can not be transgressed except with inevitable penalty. But to those who have pooh-poohed the application of these principles, their significance must be startling.

Nothing is more certain than that if men sell at as low as, or lower than, they buy, they must fail. Also, it is ten to one that if men attempt to do a business out of all proportion to their capital, they too will fail. A third truism is, that if men choose to give credit to such dangerous dealers, they also are likely to fail.

Let it be understood that in what we have now to say we are not discussing special measures of "reform." But the leading Boston failure, that of the lottery-shop, exemplifies evils, weaknesses, and dangers which threaten not simply our own trade, but the commercial community, the country itself. It becomes equally the part of selfishness and of patriotism to insist that such facts shall be looked straight in the face. When honest and wise men are put at a disadvantage alongside of dishonest or unwise men, when, in a word, character has no longer commercial value, it is high time to ask where we are drifting. As voters, our citizens have been permitting dishonest men to make our politics a nest of corruption; as merchants, with a like carelessness, or a speculative and blind greed which is worse, they have encouraged men whose recklessness, if they are to be credited with ordinary sense, is scarcely to be separated from dishonesty, to undermine the very foundations on which all safe business must be grounded.

This is true in most branches of business. Curiously, it has become the function of trade journalism almost to oppose itself to its own supporters—a duty upon which most trade journals have entered boldly—in preaching principles so generally defied, and advocating what may almost be called a radical conservatism in

business dealings. For ourselves, we are satisfied that the pillar-houses of the trade, which, sure in their own strength, refuse to enter into trade consultations and almost resent discussions of business principles as an interference with private affairs, will at the last be foremost to acknowledge the rightness of this work, and perhaps regret that they had not earlier lent their strength to make others strong.

Now the commercial curse of this country is the reckless scramble to "do business," at whatever cost, in which manufacturers, middle men, and retailers are alike engaged—the one "because the other is." They get the notion that their expenses must be big anyhow, and that the more goods they sell the nearer they will come, at least, to meeting them. Half the wholesalers are afraid to refuse a dollar's worth of goods, for fear somebody else will get the profitless trade. They have no backbone. And so anybody can get credit: "He'll last long enough to pay that bill, any way." Then this reckless buyer gets "stuck," and must offer his goods "at a great sacrifice" to meet his first notes. This sacrifice (of the publisher) attracts custom; cash flows in; our dealer begins to feel good, pays his first notes promptly, buys heaps more of stock, for cash if the publisher is afraid of him; and pretty soon all the travellers are wild to sell to the great proprietor of "the cheapest bookstore in the country," because "he is doing all the business in ———." Of course he is. For he is "giving away" the publishers. The retail customer can buy of him for less than the jobber can buy of the manufacturer. The open secret is that one day he will fail to pay his bills, and the publishers will get ten cents on the dollar, the other ninety having been thrown into the street.

Then his bankrupt stock must be further sacrificed at auction or forced sale, and here is fresh fuel for the surviving undersellers. Meanwhile, sounder dealers have this alternative: they may stand by paying prices, and sell few books, which is after all the wiser course, or they may meet the underseller at his own prices, ruinously—and then he has the start of them any way. In either case the recklessness of the underseller, and of the publisher who has fostered the underseller, has prevented his turning over the stock he had bought in hopes of a fair market; he finds difficulty in meeting his payments; if his capital is not large, he himself fails, and here is another loss for the publisher. It may be he or the underseller who fails first; perhaps both fail. The one failure is as much the result of giving credit to undersellers as the other is. It is in this way that trade is rotted through and through; goods are sold at any price, the weak houses join hands to

hold each other up, exchanging accommodations recklessly, and so it goes till there comes a crash, and the bottom is out. This is not the case in the book trade only, although under the peculiar conditions of the book trade, it is here more disastrous to honesty. It *must* be stopped if any business is to remain safe.

But to return to the specific question: We have no unkindly feeling for the projector of the grand gift enterprise personally. The gentleman, on the contrary, is personally liked in the trade as a "good fellow." But it becomes our duty to say plainly, in behalf of the true men of the trade, that this bankruptcy business, as it now goes, must have an end. If, after inviting ruin by utterly reckless dealing, bankrupts are to be permitted to settle up at the fashionable rates and go on, dealers who mean to pay dollar for dollar may as well stop. They can not compete with those who buy goods at a hundred per cent off. Compromise with men who defy arithmetic is not only an injury to sound houses; it is still more harmful to those legitimately in difficulties, because the reaction against "liberal" treatment must soon come, and then a prejudice as indiscriminate as compromising now is, will make it the harder for men who have tried not to fail.

We hesitated to advocate a liberal settlement with Lee & Shepard, as we did, because of this fear of "making bankruptcy easy" (P. W., Sept. 4th, 1875), and we then said: "Indeed, there is no use in the trade setting Lee & Shepard right again, if (the trade) means to continue encouraging reckless men, undersellers, enemies of sound trade, a block or two off, to bankrupt a good part of the trade, themselves first, by selling at prices which every publisher knows means loss—whether they do it by lotteries or not." (We earnestly hope, for the credit and honor of the firm named, that the statement that they have been fostering this last bankrupt, since their own compromise, is not true.) And now the line must be sharply drawn. Here is a typical case. This lottery dealer had done his best to ruin the retailers in Boston, and, for that matter, the publishers too, and was just starting for New-York. A few years since, the firm of which he was the head failed, under circumstances not so unlike those of to-day. He settled easily, at a low rate, and here is the result again. History will still repeat itself. We do not wish to be hard on any one—but this is too hard on prudent men.

There are those, it seems, who have not yet recovered from the fond illusion that they did a rather wise thing in "getting rid of old plugs" to the lottery shop; who still have a lingering

admiration for the generalship of the man who did "all the trade of Boston"—at other people's expense; who still in self-excuse attribute the collapse rather to "misfortune," to the failure of accommodating and accommodated friends—to any cause but the evident one of doing business on a system which makes failure only a question of time: a system clearly set forth in this dealer's advertisement. (*Boston Globe*, Aug., 1875.) "As every book I sell is of more value than the price I ask, every present is so much clear gain"—and loss, of course, to somebody! If this gentleman had confined himself to selling dead stock at a living profit, he might indeed have been useful to the trade, though no success would have excused a system which as a temptation to gambling is essentially immoral; but he set himself in successful opposition to the publishers' regular and sound customers by advertising books "new and fresh, comprising nearly every popular book published by the most eminent publishers of England and America," and many of these he certainly had. As it was, commercially speaking, the Atlantic Ocean would have been a better market for the "old plugs."

But we should be sympathetic with "misfortune!" When a man flatters himself he is doing a fine business because cash is pouring in, no matter how notes are going out; has no idea of what his stock is worth; keeps no books to show his profit and loss; borrows other people's credit and lends his own in reckless "accommodation;" pays cash for the jewelry he gives away because the jewellers are too sharp for him, and gets credit from publishers who are only too eager to sell—is that "misfortune" to sympathize with when, in this complication of unsoundness, some one else's failure hastens his own? It is no time for sympathy, and we repeat what we said in prophecy four months ago, that creditors who foster such dealing deserve their losses. And now, will the trade act on the lesson some of them have been taught at such cost, or shall this treason to commercial honor still further compass the ruin of the trade? One by one, other men who give away their goods and their creditors are sure to follow. In the name of honor, integrity, and common sense, shall failure be made the only profitable business in the trade?

OUR new plan of prize questions has awakened much interest in the trade, besides attracting notice from the general press. We have already received a number of lists, submitted not only by clerks, but by leading members of the trade, and from all parts of the country. It is, in fact, an *embarras des richesses*. The field is still open

(until next week) for answers to prize question No. 1: "Which are the most salable books in biography?" In our next we shall present the second question, which will be as to works on farming, with "rules for competitors" revised, to make several points which have called forth queries more clear. In response to the latest of them, we may say that the word "salable" is not meant to refer to books of a merely ephemeral sale, but to those which it is wise to keep in stock.

OUR last issue was delayed by the breaking of a press on which one of the forms was being printed, and we have also to apologize for the delay of this number, occasioned by the late date at which most of the annual summaries were sent in by the publishers. The massing of these summaries in one number of the WEEKLY is a new feature, which, with the Supplementary Index of books not entered in the last Annual, will prove, we trust, of great value to the trade. We regret that a number of publishers failed to furnish lists of their publications during 1875—the reason given, in most cases, being the lack of leisure to prepare the list.

THE books of 1875 in the annual summaries number over a thousand, of which more than a half are indexed. The largest list is that of Jas. R. Osgood & Co., which numbers 136 books, although about a fourth of these are reissues of standards. We suppose these lists are the nearest indication we have of the state of American publishing during 1875, since the copyright records take no note of reprints, and its comparative poverty is a sad indication of the imperfect state of American bibliography and registration. In short, there is as yet no means of estimating the American book production. We propose during this year to introduce a system of tabular registration from our own records, but it is still so difficult to get sufficiently complete information from American publishers, that this must remain seriously imperfect until there is a more general awakening to the commercial as well as the literary value of bibliography.

THE announcement of the spring fair elsewhere will be noted with interest. The new feature of a remainder sale, at auction, is introduced, which, if kept within proper limits, will be useful. Our columns are too crowded this week to permit any adequate discussion of the latest plans of the committee; meanwhile, however, it should be pointed out that the rules given in our advertising pages are simply new amendments of those for the last fair, and re-

place only those which are modified by them. The rules in full, as affected by these amendments, will be given later.

IN accordance with our expressed intention to give as much reading matter in the WEEKLY as the advertising support permits, this number assumes almost the proportions of a magazine; we present several special articles of interest to the trade, as we shall do whenever we are afforded space.

THE list of creditors in the Boston lottery failure is awaited with interest by the trade. It will afford an informing exhibit.

BOOKS FOR THE TIMES.

WE have more than once called the attention of booksellers to the desirability of cultivating trade by keeping prominent on their counters and pointing out to customers the books that are especially timely or in season. These are not necessarily or usually new books, but those whose subjects have special interest for the time. Such, for instance, are devotional books during the season of Lent, a round of agricultural books which should follow in the country bookstores the farmer's special work for the month, guide-books in summer in the city bookstores. This is one of the methods of promoting trade which is not half utilized.

This year booksellers have a special and double opportunity of this sort. This is the Centennial year—a year for history, and also the year of the presidential election—a year for the study of political principles, financial questions, and statistics. There are any number of people who will buy books on these subjects if the books are brought to their attention. We have been preparing standing pages or order lists of books on these subjects, which will be very useful to the bookseller in suggesting these, and which, if we receive the support of the publishers, we shall shortly present. The general press has already given some attention to this subject, and we quote from an admirable editorial in the *Boston Christian Register*:

"In remembering that this is our Centennial year, let us not forget that it is the year of the Presidential election. . . . Now it is the bounden duty of every young man who is to assume this great responsibility to begin betimes to fit himself for the discharge of his elective duties intelligently and faithfully. Here is a fine chance to kill two birds with one stone; for the course of reading and study necessary to equip a man for voting is just that which is appropriate to the Centennial year. What are the best books that a young man can read to so equip himself?

"First, a good history of the United States. We have such a one in Mr. Higginson's 'Young Folks' History of the United States.' . . . Let a young man not merely read but study and master Mr. Higginson's little book, and he will know more about the history of his country—with shame be it confessed—than ninety-nine voters out of a hundred know. For a brief and comprehensive history of the Revolutionary war there is nothing better than G. W. Greene's 'Historical View of the American Revolution'; for the adoption of the Constitution, Hildreth; and for the anti-slavery conflict, Vice-President Wilson's excellent 'Rise and Fall of the Slave Power.'

"But these fuller studies of the nation's history are of less importance than some others after the reader has once mastered Mr. Higginson's little book, in which, by the way, there is a bibliography of historical reading full enough for those who have 'all the time there is' before the election to read in. But after the 'Young People's History,' the next thing to read is Shepard's 'Constitutional Text-Book,' for it is not sufficient for a young man to know the different articles of the Constitution, even by heart. He should understand why they were framed, what they were meant to guard against, and what to secure. This information is given very clearly in the book which we have named. Another admirable book, and one which every young man in the country ought to own, if possible, and read and study, is Mr. Charles Nordhoff's 'Politics for Young Americans'

"Questions of political economy are likely to be deeply involved in the coming election, and for some years to come they will probably be more and more prominent. For a short and comprehensive treatise we know of nothing better than 'The Primer of Political Economy.' Political economy is such a fascinating study, that the young man who reads this primer may want to try his head at something more elaborate. He will find it in Ferry's 'Political Economy' and Walker's 'Science of Wealth,' in Mill's 'Political Economy,' and Cairnes's. But for a beginner none of these books are so good as the above-named primer. We venture to believe that not a quarter of the men in the lower House of Congress know as much about political economy as can be learned from this compact and interesting little treatise.

"Let any young man carefully read and study the four books that we have principally recommended, and when November comes he will be able to vote much more intelligently than if he makes no special preparation. But, having read these, he will very likely wish to go on and read some of the other books that we have named, and many, too, that we have left unmentioned."

The *Republican*, of Monongahela City, Pa., says, in relation to this subject:

"We submit that the wisest and most profitable way of celebrating the Centennial of our National Independence would be for every man, woman, and child who can, to read carefully, first, some good History of the United States, and second, some work on Republican Government, setting forth the principles on which it is founded, the nature of its institutions, the qualifications necessary to make a good American citizen, and the duties of a

citizen to his country. If there is one thing to be desired more than another for the public weal, it is that we should enter on the second century of the nation's existence with all the people who are now citizens, or are soon to be so, having such knowledge as is necessary to a clear understanding of our government, and to the discharge of our duty to it. This is especially important since the purity, the honor, and the very permanency of our institutions depend more than ever on the right use of the ballot; and still further, because we must look upon the century which we now enter as the time for perfecting that which is yet imperfect, and for the removal of that which is either wrong or superfluous."

Now here is an opportunity for the trade, and we look to them to improve it.

A TRADE CURIOSITY.

THE begging letters that come to publishers are commonly extraordinary enough, but here is one that caps the climax. It came as a New-Year's gift to a New-York house, who kindly make it over to the trade:

A. D. 1875, d. 30th Decr.

Hon. PUTNAM & Co., Publ.

N Y City:

Merry Christmas! Happy Newyear! The Lord give You strength from the sanctuary! Grant You according to Your own heart and fulfill all Your councils (wishes)! David. "Bless You Heaven in Your business transactions. May You ever enjoy cheerful health, hilarity, mirthfulness, contentedness & happiness! May You always prosper very well with Your dearly beloved Family!"

May You enjoy very well the Centennial Anniversary! Which of Our Am. Poets will deliver the address on that day, Hon. LLD Longfellow, the greatest of Our still living Poets, (whom I know personally) having declined the invitation?

"Bascom's philosophy of literature, issued by Your presses several years ago I intended purchasing during my short stay in N Y City, a few years ago, in Hon. Sheldon's bookstore, which I was just passing on my road to the N Y Ph. depot. That's an old book now, however I did not see it yet at all, notwithstanding my having been inquiring for it a great many times whenever I chanced to find a bookstore in any of the smaller towns through which I was travelling. Long time ago, viz: Ten years ago You favored me with the gift of: "Klipstein's Anglosaxon grammar (Hurrah for the welfare of Ven. & Hon. P.) & reader, having had too an other copy on that subject, viz: "Vernon's issued in London, some time ago, both of which I exchanged for some travels when being in a bookstore in Phila, Pa, with benefit. O, dear Sir, Venerable & Hon. Putnam, Esq: will You be so kind as to honor me with the gift of the above named copy as a memorial, there being a great many of them here in this library.

Respectfully Your christian friend:

PROF. — — —

BAYARD TAYLOR is now said to be writing a combined biography of Goethe and Schiller, which will occupy several years in preparation and form several volumes.

COMMUNICATIONS.

REDUCTION OF RETAIL PRICES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., January 19, 1876.

To the Editor of the Publishers' Weekly :

Reform is what we want in the book business, but reform we shall never have until the publishers reduce their catalogue prices and their discounts. There are many books, such as are bought by the people, that the publishers will sell us at 50 per cent discount, and even more ; and these and other books that can be bought at large discounts are placed conspicuously before the people by a certain class of dealers, at 25, 33, and 40 per cent discount. Nearly every city or town large enough for three or four booksellers and stationers will have at least one bookseller (or dog in the manger) who will, by these large discounts and his bold advertisements, be able to draw some of the customers from those stores where they are trying to do a fair and honorable business, enough, in fact, to materially lessen the amount of receipts, and consequently dishearten and perhaps break down the proprietors. The discount gate having been opened by books with large discounts, all books pass through at some discount, and the other dealers of the town will not keep on hand an assortment of miscellaneous books when they have a cheap John near by who will supply at such low prices. As the capital of these cheap Johns is mostly in large discounts, they would soon die a natural death (and perhaps no one would mourn their departure) if retail prices and discounts were properly adjusted by the publishers. I would rather take my chance for success in selling books, if fair and just retail prices were made on all books by the publishers, with a discount of only 25 per cent to all retailers, than to have prices and discounts what they are now, because the "cutters under" could make but a poor show of selling at much less than regular retail prices without almost instant death, and I could then conscientiously ask and receive the full retail price, which I can not now do in all cases.

So I say the first step toward reform, to be real and lasting, must be the adjustment of retail prices and discounts by publishers, and I think the larger half of the reform we are seeking for will have been gained the day the publishers do it, and it never can before.

PROVIDENCE.

NO HELP TO UNDERSSELLERS!

NEW-YORK, January 26, 1876.

To the Editor of the Publishers' Weekly :

I have read with great interest your editorial on "Shall the Book-Butchers be Fostered?" and hope it may do good. It seems to me the question of the power of a publisher to control his books is exactly where the great fight is going to come between the regular trade and "book-butchers." If a jobber refuses to be bound by the request of the publisher "not to sell to undersellers," and the publishers have not backbone enough to say plainly, "We will neither sell to undersellers nor to those who sell to them," then the sooner such publishers sell direct, and walk up and take their little tickets in the "great gift sale," as so many have done the last week, the better it will be for the trade.

Any man can see that a publisher can not sell the regular trade and the underseller as a stated thing. It may work well for a house to do as some have done this fall—supply the trade, and then go at once and sell the undersellers, who will sell those very same publications to the retail purchasers at prices no honest man can give and pay his debts ; and so their goods remain on the shelves unsold ; but whether they are going to be smart enough to do that again, or the regular trade verdant enough to allow such things, time will tell.

From experience, I know that an open declared policy of "no dealings with undersellers, directly or indirectly," is a good one, and one that the trade appreciates.

Among the souvenirs I am preserving is a present received from an enraged book-butcher for refusing to sell him books at retail prices for *net cash* ; and even *this* policy, I believe, is better than the miserable shuffling evasion of, "If I don't sell them, somebody else will."

If the trade would take a memorandum of the names of those publishers who sell "book-butchers," "gift-book sales," and "cheapest bookstores in America," etc., as the lists of their creditors are published, and refuse as much as possible to handle their publications, it would very soon show them where "interest and principle" alike pointed, and that is in an honest, fair dealing with customers, protecting those to whom you have sold your goods by all possible means.

We need a revival of good, old-fashioned, solid backbone in the book trade. Now it seems as though there was an entire lack of any thing like *bone*, and in its place a mere piece of gristle, tough enough, but good for nothing to stand up.

S. E. H.

THE CLOUD WITH THE SILVER LINING.

NEW-YORK, January 25, 1876.

To the Editor of the Publishers' Weekly :

The publishers of books, as well as the jobbers, will be glad to know that the lines of bookselling are continually widening in these dull times. It is a comfort to know that while some of the book-dealers are winding up, new markets are opening. Only yesterday, a toy-dealer announced himself to me as a bookseller ! and to-day I am in the receipt of a letter from the house of —, "importers and dealers in millinery and fancy goods," stating that their book trade is constantly increasing, and that they would like one of my catalogues. And to this complexion it has come at last ! A new race of booksellers is in the field. Isn't it time for some of us to take the "ribbons," and open an importers' combination, and put "Lange's Commentary" alongside of a jumping-jack, and "The Changed Cross" by the side of a wax-doll ? *Vive la bagatelle !* What do we want of a race of booksellers, so long as the fancy-goods' dealers are in existence ? What do we want of bookstores, so long as we have bazaars ? They will do the work cheaper, will serve the public at a less cost, and put lots of money in the purse of the publishers and jobbers. Why shouldn't they be encouraged, and, as they "can use more stock" than the ordinary retailer, buy at less rates ?

X. Y. Z.

BINDINGS FOR LIBRARIES.

DENNIS LIBRARY,
NEWTON, N. J., Jan. 17, 1876.*To the Editor of the Publishers' Weekly.*

Why will not publishers have a portion of their editions strongly stitched and bound in leather, or at least leather backs, for public libraries, where they must receive more or less rough usage by rough hands? The fancy bindings are very pretty and well adapted for parlor use and ornament. That is well enough, but in libraries those fancy bindings are at once concealed by the covering required to make the books last any time, and are therefore worthless. Even if it cost more, a plainer leather binding would be preferred for libraries. We would always prefer them if we could get them at almost any reasonable cost, as the slim fancy bound books soon come to pieces, and have to be rebound. The same may be said of school-books.

Let a publisher advertise such a binding, and we should know at once what and where to order.

Yours truly,

M. BARRETT, Librarian.

PLEASANT GUSHING.

—, MASS., Jan. 15, 1876.

To the Editor of the Publishers' Weekly:

I have felt like gushing ever since I received the Uniform Trade List, and, like Artemus, I will "let her gush."

I am a novice in the business, and have always felt the need of just such a book. You have done the work well, and that Index—well, it makes me feel wise, when a customer asks for some book I never heard of, to just open my "Bible," and show him all about it. I am studying it devoutly.

Another thing—I wish to thank you for pushing the reform. Boston lotteries and underselling have hurt us, but the morning light is breaking. I have just had the pleasure of filling a handsome order from our Town Library at 20 off.

If the large dealers will stop all underselling by big folks and little folks, the trade in small places will make good the loss they will sustain.

But I will make my bow, and wish you and the reform success.

THE ANNUALS.

THE new "Trade List" is a great improvement over last year; the index has already in four weeks' use saved us more than double the cost of ten books. Hoping you will continue on in the good work of reform, and helps of all kinds to the poor bookseller, we remain,

Yours truly, R. G. WYNKOOP & CO.,
Syracuse, N. Y.

BOTH lists should be in every public library, and there are but few private book-buyers who can afford to dispense with them. Both are carefully indexed according to subjects, and each contains more than two thousand pages.

—*Christian Union.*

No better work for bibliography has been done for many years than the inception and publication by F. Leypoldt of the American Publishers' Uniform Trade-List Annual. The

idea was so valuable that it was followed in England, but in points of convenience, design, execution, and completeness the American books have been far ahead of the English books. The American Catalogue, which Mr. Leypoldt hopes to issue this year, will be invaluable to all whose business or pleasure it is to become bibliophiles. It is mainly due to Mr. Leypoldt's public-spirited generosity, indefatigable industry, and wise and good-humored tact that the booksellers of the country have been induced to unite in behalf of interests of the utmost importance to all scholars and students.—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

BOOKS RECEIVED.

THE CHALDEAN ACCOUNT OF GENESIS, by George Smith. (Scribner, Armstrong & Co.) Mr. Smith's latest and most important contributions to biblical literature are to be found in this work, which contains an account of the tablets taken from the excavations he made last year in Assyria. These tablets, though dreadfully mutilated, being in many cases in numberless pieces, have by the greatest patience and research been partially restored, and the cuneiform inscriptions upon them sufficiently deciphered to glean from them their general meaning. They have been discovered to be the Chaldean account of the creation of the world, the fall of man, the building of the tower of Babel, and the flood, most exactly parallel with the accepted Mosaic account. The work is written in a popular style, which makes it exceedingly acceptable to the unlearned reader. It is entirely devoted to a description of the various fragments found, and a comparison of them with biblical history. It is illustrated and very handsomely gotten up, being printed on clear, large type on fine white paper with plenty of margin. 8vo, cloth, \$4.

LIFE AND LABORS OF DUNCAN MATHESON, by the Rev. John Macpherson. (Robert Carter & Bros.) The hero of this little work was born in Huntly, Scotland, in 1824. He was known for the great beauty of his life, and for his labors in behalf of religion. He is numbered among the "Evangelists," or out-door preachers, and was noted for the fervor of his preachings and the number of conversions he made. 16mo, cloth, \$1.25.

HALVES, by James Payn. (Harper & Bros.) Two brothers, in starting out upon the journey of life, make a covenant with each other, that whenever they meet again, no matter after how many years, to share whatever fortune they may have equally. We find one of them a seemingly prosperous lawyer in a small English town, with a miserly wife, an unprincipled son, and a rich and lovely ward. The other brother returns after thirty years, but leaves it in doubt at first whether he is rich or poor, to assure himself of his brother's sincerity. Out of this many complications arise which lead to crime. A pretty love story runs through the plot, and somewhat lightens its general sombreness. 8vo, paper, 50 cents.

OWEN GWYNNE'S GREAT WORK. (Harper & Bros.) Owen Gwynne is one of the unfortunates who in an evil day gets into print; incited by his wife's desire for fame, he begins to write a

"History of the Fifteenth Century," which is to perpetuate his name forever. This great work overshadows all his life; to accomplish it, he lets nothing stand in his path. His children's happiness is ruthlessly sacrificed, and his home broken up. The accidental destruction of the unfortunate manuscript is quite dramatic; as it sinks out of sight like an evil spirit, peace and happiness again dawn on the scene, and the poor author awakes to life and hope, rid of a burden that had almost crushed him. The novel is by the author of "The Story of Wandering Willie," and has quite a good deal of merit. 8vo, paper, 50 cents.

ATHENAGORAS, edited by F. A. March, LL.D., with explanatory notes by W. B. Owen, A.M. (Harper & Bros.) Being the fourth volume of the series known as the "Douglass Series of Christian Greek and Latin Writers," prepared for use in schools and colleges. The series owes its origin to an endowment by Mr. Benjamin Douglass for the study of these authors in Lafayette College, his object being to replace the works of heathen poets now in use in colleges of England and America, for the study of Greek and Latin by the best writings of the early Christians. The works have been prepared with great care, with critical text, notes, etc., like the current approved textbooks. 12mo, cloth, red edges, \$1.75.

A MANUAL OF ENGLISH LITERATURE, by Thomas Arnold. (Ginn Bros.) In order to present this valuable manual to the American public at a reduced price, the publishers have made a slight change in it which in no way impairs its usefulness, having substituted for the long preliminary chapter in the English edition, a chapter from Mr. Arnold's "From Chaucer to Wordsworth." The work, as now given, affords the student of English literature one of the most succinct and compact reviews of writers and their works from the Anglo-Saxon period to modern times there is in the market. In an appendix is a valuable paper "On English Metres." 12mo, cloth, \$2.

ANGOLA AND THE RIVER CONGO, by Joachim John Monteiro. (Macmillan & Co.) These descriptions of the country between the River Zaire or Congo, and Mossamedes or Little Fish Bay, are the first detailed accounts published of one of the richest and most interesting parts of tropical Africa. The author has aimed to present accurate and truthful descriptions of its more striking features and productions, and of the manners and customs of the various tribes which inhabit it. He devoted many years to travel and exploration of that part of the coast, the result of which, as offered in this volume, will give extreme pleasure to the general reader. With maps and illustrations. 12mo, cloth, \$2.50.

THROUGH AND THROUGH THE TROPICS, by Frank Vincent, Jr. (Harper & Bros.) "The Land of the White Elephant," Mr. Vincent's first book of travels, introduced him to public notice as a more than ordinarily interesting descriptive writer. His present work relates to his travels through Oceanica, Australasia, and India. Leaving New-York in the year 1869, he made the voyage to San Francisco on a sailing ship bent on a trading voyage round the world. From this point he went directly through the tropics, going over some thirty

thousand miles of travel. His book is very clearly written, and contains a good deal of fresh and interesting matter. 12mo, cloth, \$1.50.

THE PROTECTION OF MAJORITIES, by Josiah Phillips Quincy. (Roberts Bros.) "The Protection of Majorities," the initial paper of this volume, and the one which gives it its title, embodies some views of Mr. Quincy's relative to the direction in which electoral reform is possible in America. The other papers are "Coercion in the Later Stages of Education," "The Function of Town Libraries," "The Abuse of Reading," and "The Better Samaritan." 16mo, cloth, \$1.

THE NATIONAL CURRENCY AND THE MONEY PROBLEM, by Hon. Amasa Walker, LL.D. (A. S. Barnes & Co.) Some sound and practical views on the money question contributed by the late Amasa Walker to the *International Review*, from which they are reprinted. 50 cents.

THE IRISH AMERICAN ALMANAC FOR 1876. (Lynch, Cole & Meehan.) Besides the usual amount of useful and practical information to be found in almanacs, this pamphlet embraces quite a good selection of reading matter in prose and verse. 25 cents.

THE GATES OF PRAISE, by J. R. Macduff, D.D. (Robert Carter & Bros.) A little collection of devotional poems, imbued with the piety and earnestness of the reverend author's well-known style. Gotten up in a neat and attractive form. 24mo, cloth, red edges, \$1.

APOSTASY DISCUSSED, by W. C. Huntington, A.M., and Rev. W. C. Collins. (J. A. Bancroft & Co.) Through the medium of letters, the authors have investigated the question of the "final perseverance of the Saints." Their work is dedicated "To every lover of truth, whether Calvinistic or Armenian in principle." 12mo, cloth, \$1.

BRYANT AND STRATTON BUSINESS ARITHMETIC, by H. B. Bryant, E. E. White, M.A., and C. G. Stowell, M.A. (Albert Mason.) A new and revised edition of a work rich in information for the student, accountant, and business man. 8vo, cloth, \$2.50.

POEMS, by William Wordsworth. (Ginn Bros.) These poems of Wordsworth are selected from "Hudson's Text-Book of Poetry," and are offered in handy pamphlet form for the use of schools and classes. They are edited with a number of valuable notes, and comprise the very best of Wordsworth's writings. 50 cents.

THE FIRST HALF CENTURY OF DARTMOUTH COLLEGE, by Nathan Crosby. (J. B. Parker.) A little paper of historical and personal reminiscences, read before the Alumni at the commencement of 1874, by one of the class of 1820. 25 cents.

THE EXCAVATION OF OLYMPIA, by Ernst Curtius; and ERNST CURTIUS, by Robert P. Keep. (A. S. Barnes & Co.) Two papers reprinted from the *International Review*. That by Robert P. Keep, late U. S. Consul at Athens, Greece, and devoted to an account of Ernst Curtius, Müller, and Mommsen, the German archaeologists, is specially interesting. 25 cents.

THE CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION: HOW SHALL PRIZES BE AWARDED?

(Contributed to the PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY.)

WE are pleased to see the ardor and enterprise displayed by the book fraternity in preparing a splendid show of their wares at the forthcoming Centennial Exposition.

The older members of the trade, whose recollections extend back only thirty or forty years, or whose acquaintance with and handling of books made fifty or a hundred years ago, will grimly smile at the difference of manufacture and the appearance of books of those dates and of these of the present day. The old styles of mottled sheep, of grained calf, of embossed morocco, of flowery cloth, or half-cloth boards with printed paper labels, have given way to the richly-gilt Levant or antique morocco, the polished calf, or the exquisitely tinted cloths with their tasty adornments in black and gold.

All these new styles have been the results of competition. This competition is now to be deliberately held up for the public approbation; not now for the pecuniary gains by increased sales, but as a matter of reward of merit, which the winners will proudly exhibit and dilate over. That this reward is keenly desired is shown by the great expense and trouble the competitors are taking in making a good display—the expenses of some running into the thousands. This enterprise is laudable, and the object to be gained in this centennial year a desirable one. The display will certainly be creditable to the book trade.

Now, this naturally leads us to inquire, How are the premiums or medals to be awarded? Shall it be to him who makes the greatest display—the showiest books, the best-bound books, the best-printed books, the best list of authors, the best-manufactured books—or shall it lie between those who manufacture entirely the books they publish, and those who have them manufactured for them?

We believe it should be to none of these. We think the first prize should be given to him who shows the most *taste and discrimination* in his publishing; who uses generally the newest and best type, the finest grades of paper, the most careful and exact printing, and clothes the whole in the neatest and best bindings; in short, *he who most faithfully represents the advanced state of the art of book-making at the present day*. In addition to this, the committee, in making their awards, should take into consideration, where two parties present equal claims, the character of the books on their lists—which tend most to advance the principles which underlie civilization, and present the advanced state of thought and morals.

We have heard it claimed by some that the awards should be given to those who entirely manufacture their books on their own premises. No claim could be more preposterous, for there is not a single house in the country entitled to the award on such grounds. Shall it be said because a house has a printing-office, and a bindery, and even a stereotype foundry and engraving bureau, on its own premises, that it manufactures its own books? Do they make the paper, the cloth, or the leather, the binder's boards or twine, the gold or the stamps, the type or the designs for the illustrations, or the many things which go to

make up a book? And what matters it whether I have a bindery in the fourth story, a printing-office in the fifth, an engraving-shop in the third, or whether I employ a binder who mostly does my work, or a printer who always has a number of presses running on my paper, or an engraver who devotes all his time at his home to my illustrations?

In each case, the laborers are employed at my orders, and the results of their work are the tools from which my capital is to reap its reward. They may do their work in some other man's building or their own in the one case, or in my building in the other. In either case it is merely the employment of my capital in order that it shall reap its interest in the sale of the manufactured stock, and in no sense is any publisher entitled to an award upon the ground that he manufactures the book entirely.

We hope the committee in making their awards will clearly define the reasons which may guide them in arriving at a decision. Upon such a committee should be put a man of liberal enlarged views with a high literary character; another with a practical knowledge of the various arts engaged in bookmaking; and a third who has an extended knowledge of the books published within the last hundred years. Neither, we think, should be actively engaged in the book business at the present time.

W. P. H.

THE GERMAN BOOK TRADE AT THE CENTENNIAL.

THE preparations for the German book exhibition at Philadelphia are well advanced, and a *résumé* of the official circular issued by the Committee for the Collective Exhibition of the German book and printing trades should interest our readers.

The plot allotted to the department is 64 feet by 32½ (a little more than half the space allotted to the A. B. T. A.), situate on the south avenue near the main entrance. The space granted being much less than was applied for, it became necessary to resort to the most skilful devices in the arrangement of table, desk, shelf, and wall space. This problem has been solved in so satisfactory a manner by the architect, Prof. A. Scheffers, of Leipsic, that the feature promises to form one of the chief attractions of the German division.

The outer edge of the plot will be occupied by exhibition tables inclosing the rest of the space. In the midst of these will be raised walls, furnished with architectural decorations and portals and openings. The tables are so planned that the back part of their tops are raised up, desk-fashion; upon these are cases with movable shelves, while the upper part of the walls is set apart for wall-maps, charts, pictures, etc. In the inner space will be three octagonal desk-tables, with erections for globes, etc. Eight columns, with revolving wings, will provide wall-space for objects which need close examination. All the visible woodwork will be in black lacquer, ornamented with finishings in gold-bronze. The walls, desks, and tables are covered with gray cloth finished with red borders and fringes.

The display is expected to compare favorably with those at previous exhibitions, since a hundred and forty contributors, among them

the most prominent firms, have already entered the lists. A capable representative is to watch over the interests of exhibitors, with a view to business, and report regularly to the committee.

The total expenses of the department are estimated at 30,000 marks (\$7500), half of which will be borne by the German government. The average share per contributor will therefore be 115 marks. Of the total amount, 8000 marks are set apart for the construction of the exhibition stand, 7500 for representation in America and preparation in Leipzig, and 5000 for a special catalogue of the display (10,000 copies), since such a catalogue will be issued for the book trade independent of the official catalogue to be published and sold under the auspices of the German government.

The contributors are taxed proportionately, being divided into ten classes, paying from 20 to 300 marks each. A few exhibitors, who will occupy very extensive space, are taxed up to 1500 marks each.

The display of the foreign book trades will be so extensive that our publishers should feel themselves put to their mettle in making the display of the A. B. T. A. as complete as possible.

CENTENNIAL NOTES.

At the last meeting of the French "Cercle de la Librairie," the Council of Administration was authorized to contribute to a *maximum* of 12,500 francs to the expenses at the Philadelphia Exposition, provided an equal sum be raised by voluntary subscriptions from individuals.

A most interesting contribution to the Centennial will be placed on exhibition in the Book Department by Porter & Coates. It is the family Bible of Gen. Washington, in three vols., 4to, with his autograph on the title-page of each volume. The edition has copious notes by the editor, Prof. Wilson, author of "Sacra Privata," who presented the present copy to the "father of his country." The latter bequeathed it to Lord Fairfax, who left it at his death to the Herbert family, from whose possession it passed to that of the present owners.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY.

WE gave in our last issue some of the points of the annual report of the Librarian of Congress, from telegraphic despatches. The full report is just at hand from the government printing office, and we give extracts concerning such points of interest as were not then presented. This report is for 13 months, so that the Library year may hereafter be identical with the calendar year—a wise change.

Mr. Spofford again reports a large increase in the Library. "The last report exhibited an aggregate of 274,157 volumes, on the 1st of December, 1874. The present enumeration shows a total of 293,507 volumes, of which there have been added during the last thirteen months 19,350 volumes. Out of this aggregate, the law department contains 34,516 volumes, and the miscellaneous library 258,991 volumes. To these figures are to be added nearly 60,000 pamphlets, bound and unbound.

"The additions to the Library have been from the following sources, respectively:

	Books.	Pamphlets.
By purchase.....	7,654	280
By copyright.....	8,062	4,630
By deposit of the Smithsonian Institution.....	1,420	1,985
By donation (including State documents).....	945	240
By exchanges.....	1,269	238
Total.....	19,350	7,373

"The following table shows the whole number of articles received at the Library under the laws which make it the depository of all copyright matter:

Books.....	8,062
Periodicals.....	7,533
Musical compositions.....	6,598
Dramatic compositions.....	280
Photographs.....	1,149
Engravings and chromos.....	1,490
Maps, charts, and drawings.....	858
Prints.....	1,039
Total.....	27,609

"The copyright business of the year 1875 shows a steady increase of entries in each class of publications which remain subjects of copyright. Prints and labels used for manufactured articles having been excluded from entry in the office of the Librarian of Congress by act taking effect August 1st, 1874, and made subject to registry in the Patent-Office, it was anticipated that there would be a decrease in the aggregate copyright business to nearly the amount of such entries, which had averaged 5000 *per annum* for years past. But the actual falling off of entries has been only about one thousand for the past twelve months, as compared with 1873, and two thousand as compared with 1874, while the aggregate receipts are only about \$1500 below those of previous years, instead of \$5000, as represented by the rejected labels, thus showing that the deficit in this item has been much more than made up by increased entries of other copyright publications, while the Patent-Office has derived a considerable revenue from the registry of labels.

"The actual number of entries of copyrights for the twelve months ending December 1st, 1875, was 14,364, and for the thirteen months ending January 1st, 1876, 15,927. The cash receipts paid into the Treasury were for the same twelve months \$11,872, and for the thirteen months closing December 31st, 1875, \$13,151.50.

"The undersigned presented during the last Congress, in a special report, a plan for preparing a complete index to the documents, debates, and laws of Congress, treated by topics in a single alphabet. By recommendation of the Committee on the Library, Congress granted two additional assistants to be employed upon this work. The indexing has gone forward with vigor, though with a very small force, during the past twelve months, about two hundred volumes having already been indexed. Meanwhile, a proposition has been made from the trustees of the Boston Public Library, in which an approximately full index has been prepared to the congressional documents alone, that this manuscript index should be published at the expense of the Government, on such conditions of distribution as might meet the approbation of Congress. The undersigned recommends, in view of the large

amount of time and expense that must necessarily be consumed in indexing the documents especially (numbering about fourteen hundred volumes), that the already accomplished work of the officers of the Boston Public Library should be availed of as the basis of an index to the documents, expanding and verifying it throughout as may seem desirable upon full examination of the material. At the same time it would not, in the judgment of the undersigned, be expedient to print this index to the documents separately. An undertaking so important should be made comprehensive and not fragmentary in plan. Every topic referred to in such an index has its complement in the debates of Congress, and, to a large extent, in the statutes passed by that body. To bring together in one alphabetical index of topics, references to the whole printed material bearing upon each subject, whether in the documents, the debates, or the laws, arranged systematically in chronological order, is a cardinal necessity.

"The catalogue force of the Library has been continuously employed for many months upon the preparation of the new general catalogue which it is proposed to issue during the coming year, 1876. This catalogue will embrace, in several volumes, the entire contents of the Library up to its date, arranged in the alphabetical order of authors' names, with brief titles, to which the collation will be appended. This general catalogue, which will bring for the first time into print for ready reference the titles of a collection now numbering almost 300,000 volumes, will be much sought for by public institutions and by the collectors of private libraries. The annual catalogues, six of which have been issued in volumes of considerable size, with titles of the books given at large (but excluding pamphlets), were discontinued with the issue of 1872. The great cost of these annual volumes was found to be quite out of proportion to their utility, and the undersigned has thought best to substitute for them the publication of occasional brief finding lists or catalogues of the more important fresh additions to the Library. Such a catalogue, embracing the principal accessions and new books of the past three years, with an index by subjects and titles attached, is now passing through the press, and will soon be distributed to members of Congress."

The printing of the large and valuable selection of original French documents relating to the discoveries and explorations made in the northwestern portion of the United States and on the Mississippi, under the auspices of the French government, from 1614 to 1752, was commenced a few months since under the superintendence of Mr. Pierre Margry, a highly competent historical writer and *archiviste* of the department of the navy at Paris. The collection will form six octavo volumes, of about 600 pages each, and will embrace a great mass of hitherto unpublished papers, comprising letters and journals of early missionaries and other explorers, the first three volumes being devoted to the discoveries of Cavelier de la Salle and his companions.

Among the richer collections embraced in the Library of Congress may be reckoned its materials of American manuscripts, chiefly consisting of military and historical papers. Many of these are of greatest value, composed

as they are of autograph letters, journals, and documents of our statesmen and generals of the revolutionary period. Besides these there are the yet unprinted materials gathered for the American archives of the late Peter Force, of Washington, which have never yet been bound or even arranged so as to render them accessible to the student of our history. It is very important that every manuscript or written paper in the Library, which can throw any light on any portion of American history, should be systematically arranged and indexed.

Mr. Spofford then, for the fourth time, insists upon the immediate need of a new library building. Books are piled everywhere about the floors; maps, charts, engravings, etc., accumulated under the copyright act, are numbered and stowed away out of reach; while the current attraction of two of the principal newspapers of each State in the Union, representing different politics, taken for preservation as a part of the history of the times, is rendered useless for present reference. Mr. Spofford objects to weeding out, and rightly says:

"The American people should rely with confidence upon finding in one great and monumental library, and that belonging to the Government, every book which their country has produced. To reduce or cripple such a collection, so well begun, and now in the full tide of a successful and inexpensive accumulation of those literary stores which can be secured in no other way, and which, once lost, could never be reassembled, could not but be looked upon as a narrow and unwise policy, unworthy of a nation claiming to hold a front rank in civilization.

"The steady and immense growth of the copyright department alone will soon require a space which can only be provided for by a separate building. No possible enlargement of the Capitol which is likely to be agreed upon could accommodate the existing Library and its normal growth (without any extraordinary purchases or accessions) for more than a very brief period. Besides this, the history of the growth of every great library, and especially of national ones, proves that such a collection can not long be accommodated within walls devoted for the greater part to other purposes. The 300,000 volumes now forming the Library of Congress are bestowed in three halls and one detached room for the law department. All the Library rooms cover a space of only 11,600 square feet. Comparing this with the principal government libraries abroad, we find that the library of the British Museum covers a space of 110,000 square feet for books alone, besides nearly half as much more for its other collections. The National Library at Paris fills a space of 70,200 square feet. Every European nation has a separate building for its government library, although in none of them is there the same necessity for space that exists in ours, to furnish in addition to the library an office of public record for the copyright business of the whole country. While it may be said that the United States, compared with these nations, is yet young in years, we are already rich in our national literature, and in the accumulations gathered from the best of that of other lands. Congress has deliberately founded by its legislation this great repository of a nation's literature and art; and now that it has

grown to a magnitude which will favorably compare with some, at least, of the most useful libraries of the world, it is impossible to believe that the legislature of a great and intelligent people will continue to neglect making some suitable provision to preserve and extend this noble collection. If left in its present condition, the neglect of Congress will soon place its Librarian in the unhappy predicament of presiding over the greatest chaos in America; but if permanently provided for, with a liberal foresight for the future, this Library will become not only one of the foremost ornaments of the national capital, but a perpetual honor to the United States."

LIBRARY AND BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

IN the latest Bulletin (No. 36, January, 1876) from the Boston Public Library, Mr. Winsor gives a most careful and admirable bibliography of music, including the general works on the subject with the periodicals making that a specialty, the dictionaries, special histories and theories, and the chief biographies of the leading composers; the books referred to, of course, being those included in the Boston Library. As in the previous lists, there are in many instances added to the titles the explanatory notes which are the feature of these sketches in bibliography, and the value of which, both to the general reader and student, it would be hard to overestimate. A "Check List for American Local History," designed to promote the completion of the library's historical department, is started in this number, and will be continued from time to time. It contains not only the works on the subject owned by the library, but in general all works in towns, counties, and regions within or less than States, gathered from such lists and catalogues as have made America an important specialty. There is also more of "Literature of 1776" in continuation of the hints on "Centennial Reading" (published in Bulletin of July, 1875).

"THE year 1876," the *Tribune* notes, "promises to be rich in American bibliography, if not in original literature. 'The American Catalogue' proper, though a publication meant chiefly for the trade, will have great bibliographical value, and Mr. Sabin keeps at work on his task of cataloguing *Americana*. A general catalogue of the Library of Congress, which as connected with the copyright depository has an authoritative value, is in progress at Washington. A catalogue of the military library at West Point, which will be of authority in military literature, is also in preparation. At Boston, Mr. Cutter is still at work upon his *Athenæum* catalogue." To this list may be added a new catalogue for the School of Mines, Columbia College, which, it is promised, will be of much value for scientific reference, as the library, though not large, is exceedingly well selected.

THE POWERS PAPER COMPANY.

HARDLY any line of business in Springfield, Mass., is more remarkable in regard to origin, rapid rise, present extent, and high reputation, than that of the Powers Paper Company.

Its reputation is national; its wares and agents are known in every State of the Union.

A brief description of the fine building, of immense capacity, with the artistic designs of the offices, etc., will probably interest the readers of the WEEKLY.

The main building is 100 by 50 feet, rising from the basement of granite in seven stories of pressed brick, trimmed with Ohio stone, with projecting cornices of corrugated iron.

The ground floor has two main doors, on either side of which stand sturdy iron pillars, supporting the ponderous granite lintel which traverses the entire front. All of the windows are of the finest French plate, giving a perfect finish to the artistic appearance of the building.

The basement is airy, light, and elegant, fitted up in white-wood and chestnut, with counters 60 to 70 feet long, and ample space for that for which it is designed—namely, "the model packing-room of the country." It is admirably arranged, so that all the numerous orders may be separated and packed without any delay or mistakes in shipment.

The second floor contains the private office of Mr. L. J. Powers, fitted up under the personal direction of the gentleman, and certainly a gem faultless in design and workmanship. The walls and ceiling are solid cabinet-work in mahogany and ash. The desk, tables, and chairs are solid mahogany; gas-fixtures, gilt and verd with opal shades. On the walls hang choice oil-paintings by noted artists. This office is separated from the paper ware-rooms by windows of plate-glass, and from the book-keepers by a door on the left. It is the general verdict that for convenience, elegance, and completeness of appointment, this office surpasses any thing in this part of the country.

The third floor is fitted up with shelving, counters, etc., and contains miscellaneous stationery of every description, and staple goods of all kinds. The quantity is immense; the stock is clean, fresh, and admirably arranged.

The notion department, a famous branch of the company's business, occupies the fourth floor. A glance around this room will convince any one that the word "notion" is a marvellously comprehensive term. This department, in connection with the others, gives the company peculiar facilities in supplying country merchants with different lines of goods, generally found scattered throughout a dozen metropolitan warehouses.

Envelopes of various styles, and an immense variety of papeteries, may be found on the fifth floor, all of which are manufactured by the company.

The sixth and seventh floors contain full cases of flat papers—some 160 different lines. The stock carried throughout the year averages from 600 to 1000 full cases—more than can be usually found in any one paper-mill in the country—allowing all orders to be promptly filled, at shortest notice, without any delay.

The whole of this building is heated by steam, and all the floors are connected by speaking-tubes and telegraphic indicators.

Connected by a bridge 60 feet long, in the rear of the main building, is the factory, occupying five sections, each 50 by 80 feet. Here may be seen the twenty-one envelope machines, capable of turning out 500,000 envelopes per day, and costing \$1000 each; the box manufac-

tory, with capacity for making 10,000 boxes daily; the bindery and trimming-room and printing-office.

The machinery is run by a 300 horse-power engine, built by Harris, of Providence.

The main building and the factory are both fire-proof, and in direct communication by telegraph and speaking-tubes.

L. J. Powers, Esq., the founder of the company, and present manager, is a young man of but 37 years of age, quick in his movements, a careful and shrewd buyer, methodical in his daily occupations, and a keen observer of all the intricate points of the business. When a boy of but 9 years, he sold papers on the cars and in the streets, and by careful industry and tact laid the corner-stone of the present business. In 1857, the amount of business done was a trifle over \$20,000; the last year, 1875, over \$1,000,000 worth of goods were disposed of by their numerous agents. There are 118 employees in and about the buildings.

Lucius H. Powers, Esq., a brother of the former, is general superintendent and buyer in the stationery and notion departments; he also represents the company upon the road at some seasons of the year.

In conclusion, this company supply from the News Department about \$100,000 worth of newspapers and periodicals to the Boston and Albany Railroad and Connecticut Valley Railroad, as well as the numerous dealers around the country. This one branch of the business has steadily grown, and is an important feature. The *Springfield Republican* says:

"They supply all out-of-town newsdealers with the *Republican*, and employ the news-boys on all but one of the railroads leading from this city. Several manufacturers and jobbers in attendance on the recent writing-paper makers' convention looked through the establishment with interest, and declared that it was not equalled in the country. One interesting feature of the management is the system of selling the goods. The notion trade, which is confined to New-England, keeps four travelling salesmen fully employed, and for the stationery trade, the whole country is mapped out into travelling routes. One extends through New-England and the provinces, another through the Middle States, and a third from Cleveland westward, while one man, with head-quarters at Chicago, takes charge of the Mississippi Valley, and another attends to the South and the Pacific coast. The concern has two warehouses in New-York—one for the notion trade at 78 Leonard street, and another for stationery at 25 Murray street. . . . The shops have kept full time during the winter, and some are now running both night and day."

To the business talent displayed by Mr. Powers, and to the company which he represents, Springfield may well be proud to owe a business of such extent and increasing greatness.

C. S. P.

THE RIVERSIDE PRESS.

THE following interesting summary of the history of the Riverside Press is from the new catalogue of Hurd & Houghton:

"The Riverside Press, where are manufactured the books published by Hurd & Houghton, as well as many publications by other

firms, is situated on the banks of the Charles River, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, about three quarters of a mile south of Harvard College. The visitor from Boston reaches the place by the Riverside Press horse-car, leaving Bowdoin Square on the quarter hour, or the Brighton horse-car, leaving the same place on the half hour, the distance from Boston by this route being just half an hour. The clump of buildings inclosed in the yard was represented in 1851 by a single brick building, forming now the rear projection of the principal building, and a wooden attachment. It was at that time a city building, that had been abandoned for larger quarters elsewhere, and had passed into the hands of a Boston publishing house, who leased it to the printing firm of H. O. Houghton & Co., the successors of Bolles & Houghton, a firm which was preceded by the long-established one of Freeman & Bolles. In the spring of 1864 Mr. Houghton formed a partnership with Mr. M. M. Hurd, of New-York, which, under the style of Hurd & Houghton, has since that date been engaged in the publication of books, dating its issues from the joint offices of New-York and Cambridge. The one building, which in 1852 took the name of the Riverside Press, afterward became the property of its tenants, and was enlarged by them and the estate now held by the firm comprises between three and four acres."

STATIONERY NOTES.

MR. REISBECK, representing Ph. Hake, card stock, is on his way West.

FRANK BOMEN, of Slote, Woodman & Co., blank books, is "down East."

JAMES SHORT, of the firm of Short & Boland, St. Louis, is in town.

T. S. WHITE, of St. Paul, is buying goods for the spring trade.

RICHARD ENNIS, of St. Louis, is expected in town.

ROBERT D. PATERSON, Esq., from St. Louis, is stopping at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

EDWIN ELLIS, of Albany, is doing the finest *bon ton* trade in paper in the city.

JOHN GILMOUR, at Schenectady, has moved into his new store, which compares favorably with any store in the State.

HAMILTON, COE & Co., of Oswego, N. Y., deserve to be mentioned as gentlemen who cater to the wants of the public.

LUCIUS POWERS, of Springfield, Mass., has nearly recovered, and is able to attend to business.

MR. GIBBS, of Willy Wallach, has returned from a successful trip in the State, and contemplates starting for the West in a few days.

C. S. PLUMMER, manufacturers' agent, has returned from the East and reports trade improving.

WE understand that the different manufacturers of perforated board have been "cutting prices" until the last quotation is \$10 per gross in ten-gross lots.

JOHN D. EMACH has started to supply the trade with slates at bottom prices, at 60—10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10. [We have run out of 10's, or we would quote further.—PRINTER.]

BROTHER STEVENS, formerly with Wallach, is on the road seeking what he can devour, with a fine line of samples from Perry & Co. "Stick a pen here, brother S."

J. L. P. ST. JOHN, with samples of papeteries from Shaw & Alfred, has returned from a short trip through the State and reports business brisk.

CHARLES T. BAINBRIDGE, of Porter & Bainbridge, has "gone West" with an abundance of good humor and a superb assortment of samples, among the newest of which are a fine line of wedding stock, embracing many new designs, menu and memorial cards. His "*Cartes de l'Elite*" is the latest in the way of artistic stationery—a neat box containing fifty gilt-edge cards and fifty envelopes to match.

CHAMBERLIN, WHITMORE & Co., 45 Beekman street, have many new styles of papeteries just out, which are considered the *ne plus ultra* of this line of stationery. Their "Cream Wove," "The Ladies' Elegant Note," gilt edge, and the "Cream and Drab," gilt edge, all in boxes, are extremely stylish and are having a rapid sale. Their "Extra Superfine Laid Post," blue laid commercial note, put up in quarter-ream packages, in satin and light finish, with title cut of the Lord Mayor's day, London, Westminster Bridge and St. Paul's Cathedral, is one of the best papers in the market. Mr. Chamberlin returned on Friday from a very successful trip through the South, and reports trade looking up. His trip through Florida and Texas was one of pleasure, and he was accompanied by Mr. Peckham, of Dennison & Co., tag manufacturers, and other gentlemen from the North.

NOVELTIES.

"YE HERO OF '76."—The Orange Judd Co. are now supplying the trade with Crandall's great Centennial toy,



"HURRAH FOR OLD '76!"

too). He fits and also works well with all the acrobats and the menagerie." Young America is bound to have "Ye Olde Hero," and as the price is only 35 cents retail, a gross case of them will soon disappear from the dealer's store.

Clough's CORK-HANDLE. The latest article designed for a permanent cork-handle is Clough's Cork-Handle, patented April, 1875, and sold by R.G. Hutchinson, 44 Maiden lane.

"Ye Hero of '76." Ye Hero is a fine old Continental soldier in brilliantly - colored uniform, and, to quote from Mr. Crandall's circular, "with cocked hat, flag, and staff, all so ingeniously made and put together, that you can set him in a thousand different positions, and he stays there until you change him. He is a thing of life; a real joy to all boys and girls (and older people

The price of this little article will ultimately insure its universal use, it being sold at \$1.50 per gross for all sizes. The *Ne plus ultra* cork-



screw is the neatest as well as the simplest, best, and cheapest article of the kind in the market. Price-list on application.

ROBERT SNEIDER, 37 John street, has just introduced a new package of plain cream-laid note-paper and envelopes. It is put up in the old-fashioned style, no box, but a packet, and has a novel appearance. It is called "Ye Continental packet of old fashion note." The paper is of a good quality, resembling the Royal Irish Linen. The packet contains one quire and envelopes, and is sold at \$25 per hundred; by the ream, \$2.25, note size. Baronial envelopes to match, \$6 per thousand, in 1/4 M boxes.

NOTES ON THE ROAD.

PROVIDENCE.

AMONG the principal stationers in the city of Providence, the following are much encouraged as regards the opening of spring trade:

MESSRS. TILLINGHAST & MASON (The Providence Book and News Co.), a branch of the New-York News Company, do a large wholesale and retail business throughout the State of Rhode Island. Every thing in the line of papers, periodicals and novels, school-books, and all varieties of stationery, notions, and fancy goods are to be found on the two floors of this establishment. Mr. Tillinghast is the manager, and purchaser of all goods.

MESSRS. BUGBEE & HALL, in their large, cheerful store, display a very fine line of elegant stationery and fancy goods. Their holiday trade was larger than ever before, and their general business in printing and all lines of commercial stationery is gradually improving. This firm are manufacturers of the celebrated Sisson's improved patent file and binder, which is used by more than half of the agency companies in the country, and with perfect satisfaction.

VALPEY, ANGELL & Co. are all young men, but well qualified in every particular to manage and conduct their business. Their "Time and Labor-saving Table for computing the Wages of Mechanics and Laborers" is having a great sale, and those who have used the same recommend it highly. The table is handsomely bound in cloth, and sold for \$3.50.

TIBBITTS & RANDALL, successors to Gladding Bros. & Tibbitts, have the largest selection of books, and are the principal booksellers in the city. Their line of stationery is well selected.

C. A. PABODIE is the fashionable engraver of the city. His styles of wedding and card engraving compare favorably with any in the country.

WORCESTER.

THE city of Worcester has not yet recovered from the depression of last year. Messrs Sanford & Co. can be complimented upon their extensive and extremely fine line of books and stationery.

MESSRS. GROUT & PUTNAM were *too busy* to give any information as regards any thing.

GEORGE C. HOLDEN, in his little store, is an enterprising gentleman, and deserves all encouragement in his rapidly increasing business.

SPRINGFIELD.

THE largest and most elegant store in this city is that of Messrs. Gill & Hayes, near the Massasoit House. Their stock is rich and elegant, comprising an extensive line of useful and ornamental articles of every known description. Besides the fine selection of literature, their Fine Art Gallery, with choice productions of eminent artists, such as De Haas, Brown, Gaul, Sylvia, Eldred, Van Elton, and others, is one of the features of their business. Their circulating library contains over 1500 volumes of leading books.

CLARK W. BRYAN & Co., printers and stationers, occupy a fine corner brick building, and are the patentees of the metallic top for calendars, which they manufacture for printers and stationers throughout the country, and sell by millions.

MESSRS. WHITNEY & ADAMS are dealers in school-books and literature of all kinds, general line of stationery, and the largest variety of wall-paper in the retail line in the city.

THE Union Ink and Paper Co. deal in flat papers, ink, and mucilage.

HARTFORD, CONN.

MESSRS. BROWN & GROSS have the largest and best selection of books in this city. Their lines of fancy goods and stationery always embrace the latest and most desirable styles.

MESSRS. POND & HAMLIN, successors to Geer & Pond, are occupying their new store, and are enjoying a fine trade. Mr. Hamlin entered the firm on December 1st, and was formerly in the dry goods business.

S. W. BARROWS & Co. are in the store previously occupied by the late Geer & Pond near the Post-office. Books, papers, stationery, fancy goods, and blank-books are displayed to good advantage.

NEW-HAVEN.

SKINNER & SPERRY combine music with stationery, and have consequently an extensive trade with the fair ones.

JUDD & WHITE, books, stationery, etc., are quite busy, and have had a good holiday trade.

HENRY H. PECK disposed of quite a large line of gold pens before Christmas; in fact, his entire stock was removed during the night by some enterprising individual, who no doubt believed in the maxim, "That the pen was mightier than the sword." Mr. P. has been quite *pen-sive* since the occurrence.

IN conclusion, there is every indication of reviving trade and a more general feeling of confidence shown by nearly all in the East. It is to be sincerely hoped that this year will prove not only a prosperous one to the publisher, the manufacturer, the jobber, and the retailer, but to us poor mortals who are obliged to be on the road, far away from those who are dear to us, and who often receive unkind treatment instead of orders.

C. S. P.

BUSINESS NOTES.

THE talk of the trade is the failure of A. W. Lovering, Boston, proprietor of the well-known second-hand shops, and the better, or worse, known grand gift enterprise. It had been some time in the air, but occurred on Friday, being precipitated by the suspension of other Boston firms. His indebtedness is said to be large, some of the English branch houses being chief sufferers.

THE creditors of H. N. McKinney & Co., Phila., at the last meeting, voted unanimously to accept a proposition made by the house for settlement, and Mr. Moore, of the firm, is now East getting signatures.

S. S. COLLINS, Providence, R. I., has made an assignment to Charles Kelly, of that city, for the benefit of his creditors. This is said to be another gift enterprise case.

MR. PATRICK DONAHUE, Boston, failed last week. He had never recovered, it is said, from the effects of the great fires.

A MEETING of the creditors of R. Worthington is called for the 3d of February (one o'clock), at the office of J. T. Williams, 4 Warren street, New-York, to prove their debts and to choose one or more assignees.

MR. F. B. PATTERSON, 32 Cedar street, New-York, has failed. His obligations are not large.

THE failure is reported of J. H. Dayton, auctioneer, who has been in the habit of conducting auction sales of books about holiday time in New-York, Brooklyn, and other cities.

THE firm of G. A. Searcy & Co., booksellers and stationers, Tuscaloosa, Ala., having been dissolved by mutual consent, Mr. Searcy will hereafter carry on the business under his own name, assuming all the liabilities of the late firm.

THE firm of Putnam & Davis has succeeded that of Grout & Putnam, booksellers, Worcester, Mass.

TIBBITS & RANDALL, Providence, have just purchased the balance of the edition of the Narragansett Club publications.

IT is reported that the sale of volumes of "Appletons' Cyclopaedia" at the Boston agency already amounts to about half a million of dollars.

GILL & HAYES, Springfield, Mass., will publish and have ready February 1st a new book, called "How they made a Man of Him," by Miss Julia R. Smith, 1 vol., 8vo, \$1.25. The first edition is small, and all orders must be sent early.

PERSONAL NOTES.

MESSRS. LEE & SHEPARD have engaged Mr. Samuel Carson as travelling salesman. Mr. C. will have the privilege of making one trip each year to California, on commission for other houses, as before.

A. L. O. E., the favorite writer of books for children, has gone to India to engage in Zenana mission work. This writer (Miss Tucker) is a grand-niece of Boswell, the biographer of Dr. Johnson.

PROF. HARTT, of Cornell University, writes the article "Brazil" in the forthcoming (fourth) volume of the "Encyclopedia Britannica."

REV. G. R. CROOKS, D.D., is busy on the "Life and Letters of Rev. Dr. John McClintock," but the work can scarcely be expected before the middle of the year.

REV. J. S. C. ABBOTT is to write another biography—probably of Franklin—to complete his series of "American Pioneers and Patriots," in twelve volumes.

MR. WILLIAM M. F. ROUND, who has recently joined the editorial staff of the *Independent*, has brought with him from Europe the manuscript of a new illustrated book upon the scenery and the people of Brittany, in the preparation of which he has been engaged for a little more than a year.—*Boston Transcript*.

JOURNALISTIC NOTES.

WE have to correct the report in our last issue of the merging of *Oliver Optic's Magazine* in *St. Nicholas*. Messrs. Lee & Shepard are still the owners, and hope ultimately to resume its publication.

MR. HOWELLS' policy of printing papers on opposite sides of current questions is attracting much attention to the *Atlantic*. Gen. Garfield's article in the February number, on the hard-money side of the currency question, will be followed in March by a plea for the inflation side, by Henry Carey Baird, under the title of "Money and its Substitutes."

THE *American Architect and Building News* for January 15th gives drawings of the library of Mr. C. H. Joy, Boston, with the dimensions, specifications, and description. This should be of especial interest to our readers.

A LONG letter relative to Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney, in the "Poet's Home Series," and the first of the "Behaving" papers, by the author of "The Ugly Girl Papers," are the notable features of the February *Wide Awake*. Music teachers of children will get some suggestive hints from the musical page of Dr. Tourjée.

GERMANY has two magazines devoted chiefly to poetry—the fortnightly *Deutsche Dichterhalle* and the monthly *Neue Monatshefte für Dichtkunst und Kritik*, edited respectively by Ernst Eckstein and Oscar Blumenthal.

LITERARY AND TRADE NOTES.

THE Scribners will publish during the spring several new volumes in the "Epochs" series, which have proved so successful in London that the publishers there announce two additional series on this plan, as well as the further volumes of the "Modern History" series.

These are "Epochs of English History," edited by the Rev. M. Creighton, planned to cover the history of England from the earliest to present days, in eight volumes, and "Epochs of Ancient History," edited by the Rev. G. W. Cox and Charles Sankey, of which nine volumes are so far planned. This last series will relate chiefly to the history of Greece and Rome, and of their relations to other countries at successive epochs. Mr. Cox will himself write of "The Greeks and the Persians, with the Relations of Greece to the Older Civilizations," and of "The Athenian Empire, from the Flight of Xerxes to the Fall of Athens," and Dean Merivale will write the volume on "The Roman Triumvirates."

THE *Tribune* states that Mr. J. W. Schuckers is engaged on a new edition of his pamphlet on the finances (the third), which, enlarged in dimensions to 150 or 200 pages, claims to exhibit all the authorities on the subject of convertible paper-notes.

THE *Publishers' Circular*, London, recorded in 1875 5218 books, of which 3573 were new books, 1331 new editions, and 316 American importations. Of the months, August and September show the minimum and December the maximum production, the figures of the latter being 1102. There has been a marked increase, as compared with 1874, of works on theology, fiction, history, poetry, and art, and a decrease in educational books and juveniles. The issue of theological books was 782; educational, 343; juvenile, 219; fiction, 992; law, 135; economics, 126; art, science, and illustration works, 686; travels, 333; history and biography, 436; poetry and drama, 371; year books and bound serials, 258; medical books, 127; belles lettres, 199; unclassified, 211. The *Circular* says: "While all other businesses and professions shared the somewhat tame but quiescent feeling that we were doing very little, but possibly at the end of the year should pull through, the publishers must be excused if they too thought with the world. It is the thinkers who lead the world, not those who merely publish their thoughts. The publishers are not, therefore, to be blamed, nor their organ to be condemned, if they express some surprise at the business done last year, and in the fact that, in spite of all grumblings and assertions to the contrary, 1875 was a very good, in the sense of having been a very productive year, and a decided improvement on 1874."

THE "United States Official Postal Guide," published by H. O. Houghton & Co., has in its first year proved itself a great success. The January number contains the regular information which makes the periodical so valuable a hand-book to all who have occasion to make much use of the post-office. Its alphabetical list of all the post-offices in the United States is corrected to date, and the list of money-order offices is increased by the addition of all the Canadian money-order offices. The department of foreign mails contains the latest and most authentic information respecting this puzzling and variable part of post-office business, and the rulings of the Post-office Department for the last quarter answer a great number of questions which rise incidentally. The work has steadily improved since its inception.

GEORGE ELIOT's new novel, "Daniel Deronda," opens in a German gambling-saloon,

whence the scene is transferred to an English country place in Wessex. The portrait of an English girl, Gwendolen Harleth, is first given, and there are indications that this character will be the chief subject of the novelist's psychological study. The hints given of her nature, as that of one of the Lamia women, a cold, strong blonde, of passionless beauty, promise one of George Eliot's most remarkable analyses of human temperament. The hero is introduced abruptly as being attracted to her face, so that the novel begins at once according to Emerson's formula: "She was beautiful and he fell in love." The first book, "A Spoiled Child," is chiefly devoted to Miss Harleth; the second is called "Meeting Streams."—*Tribune*.

THE official report of the "Second Church Congress" is now printing at Whittaker's, and subscriptions are solicited by the publisher in view of the fact that the edition as limited may prove unequal to a later demand. The report will contain essays and addresses on such topics as "Ultramontaniam and Civil Authority," by Rev. Francis Wharton, Rev. Geo. Z. Gray, and others; "Ministration of the Church to the Working Classes," by Rev. John Vaughan, Henry Pallen, and others, and similar interesting and live topics. The price in cloth will be \$1; in paper, 75 cents.

A FINE new catalogue of Hurd & Houghton's books, with full titles and critical notices, has been issued in the most tasteful style of the Riverside Press, and that is saying a great deal. An interesting sketch of the history of that Press prefaces it.

THE *Evening Post*, in the forty-third number of its series on "The Book-Makers," gives an interesting history of the well-known printers, "John Wilson & Son." They have twelve large presses, and employ about one hundred and fifty hands. They will print the new edition of Bancroft's "History of the United States." "Many years ago it was noticeable that the most carefully made books coming from the leading publishers bore upon the reverse of the title-page the name of John Wilson & Son, and amid all the improvements of the age the name has held its position in the advance."

THE Scribners have not as yet planned their full spring list, but it will include, besides George Smith's and Max Müller's new volumes, just ready, a volume of poems by Prof. Blackie, author of "Self-Culture"; a third series of Dean Stanley's "Lectures on the History of the Jewish Church"; several new volumes in the "Epochs of History" series; the new book by the author of "Mrs. Jerningham's Journal," and a new edition of Headley's "Chaplains and Clergy of the Revolution."

A NEW edition of Alfred de Musset's works is announced in Paris by Alphonse Lemerre. It is to be in small-sized volumes, very elegant in paper and typography. One volume is to be issued monthly, the first to appear in February next.

WALT WHITMAN is to issue a small edition of his complete works in two volumes. "Leaves of Grass" will be one. The other, "Two Rivulets," will contain prose and verse, including much hitherto unpublished. Mr. Whitman kept a diary (from 1862 to 1865) of scenes in Virginia and Washington, and the hospitals, camps, battles, which will be given almost ver-

batim. Mr. Whitman will publish and sell his book himself.

ONE of the most recent and commodious of bookstores erected in London, is the establishment of Henry Sotherton & Co., of which the *London Graphic*, in a depreciative article on "Shop Architecture," says: "In Piccadilly, however, there is a charming book-shop, built apparently on a Dutch model for a book-shop, its carved oak galleries and shelves within being all laid out for the best accommodation of volumes."

A CURIOUS reprint of two early works on shorthand, with introduction and bibliography of shorthand, is to be issued in London. One of these is the first English stenography, "Characterie," published by Timothy Bright in 1588, "a cumbrous system of arbitrary characters." The other is Peter Bales's "Writing Schoole-master," published in 1590, containing his art of "brachygraphie."

M. VICTOR HUGO is about to publish a volume of verse entitled *Les Justes Collères*, which is a continuation of *L'Année Terrible*; and likewise a prose volume, which is said to be a very charming work, *L'Art d'Etre Grand-Père*.

THE *Evening Post* is authority for the statement that a new satirical poem, written in rhyming hexameters, and said to be of the nature of exceedingly strong vinegar, is in press with a Boston publishing house. The poem is entitled "Dulness," and has for its subject the poets of the day, to whose verse the author assigns the quality named in his title, together with certain other qualities of a kindred nature. The authorship of the satire is a profound secret, and it is the purpose of all concerned that it shall remain so. No one, except author and publisher, has been allowed to see a single line of the piece, but it is more than hinted that we shall all be greatly interested in reading it presently.

SEVERAL new series in literature are announced by Longmans & Co., London. The "London Series of French Classics" begins with the drama, four sets of six standard plays each being already announced, but will include other branches of literature, so as to cover finally the best works of French literature from the sixteenth century to the present time. The "London Series of English Classics" is a project of the new year, but twenty volumes are already announced in the prospectus. The range is wide, including a compilation by Mr. Furnivall, on "Life in Early England: a Series of Selections from Books and MSS. from the Eighth to the Fifteenth Century;" another by the Rev. Richard Morris, of "Specimens of the Early English Drama;" Ben Jonson's "Cynthia's Revels," edited by Prof. Henry Morley, and Kit Marlowe's "Doctor Faustus," edited by Prof. Wagner, of Hamburg; and a volume of selections from Fuller, as well as selections from the better known standard writers, edited by Prof. Dowden, E. E. Morris, and others. The third series is of "Annotated Poems of English Authors," to be issued in cheap shape (four or six pence), and with sketch and notes for the benefit of youthful students. Longfellow's "Evangeline" is among those announced.

A NEW work by St. George Mivart, "Lessons from Nature, as Manifested in Mind and Manner," is just ready in London.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

WANTED—Position as Salesman in Publishing or Stationery House by a gentleman of experience, or a few agencies in New-York on commission. Best of references given. Address "AGENCY," office of Publishers' Weekly.

WANTED—A position in a Library or Catalogue work by a person of experience. Address, W. H., lock-box 149, Marietta, Ohio.

AN active young man, with a thorough knowledge of the Bookselling business (both wholesale and retail), having fifteen years' experience—the last seven as Buyer of the Miscellaneous Book Department, Salesman, and Traveller in a large Publishing and Jobbing House—desires an engagement. Moderate expectations. Highest references. Address, E. O. N., lock box 2494, Philadelphia.

BOOKS WANTED

THE following numbers of *Trübner's American and Oriental Literary Record* are wanted to complete set: 1. 3, 36, 50, 53 to 59 (inclusive), 76, 77, 98, and from (including) 100 up to date.

- 1. Boyd's Memorial Lincoln Bibliography, 8vo, Albany, 1870.
 - 1. Colburn's Bibliography of Local Hist. of Mass., 8vo, Boston, 1871.
 - 1. Finotti's Bibliotheca Catholica Americana.
 - 1. Williams' Bibliography of Minnesota, St. Paul, 1870.
 - 1. Drake's Dictionary of American Biography, Osgood.
- Address, stating price and condition, AM. CAT., office of PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY.

DAY, EGBERT & FIDLAR, DAVENPORT, IOWA.

Sanitary Engineering. A Guide to the Construction of Works of Sewerage and House Drainage, by Baldwin Latham, C.E., M. Inst. C.E., Past President of the Society of Engineers. Price, \$12.

LAWR. B. THOMAS, 55 W. FAYETTE STREET, BALTIMORE.
Stanhope's (Lord Mahan) History of England.
Smith's Bible Dictionary, 4 vols.

WILLIAM HOLLINGSWORTH, 120 NASSAU STREET, N. Y.
Scarce Books, Periodicals, etc.

- Giraud's Birds Long Island, 8vo.
- Cassin's Birds California, etc., 4to, 1856.
- Nuttall's Ornithology U. S., 2 vols., 12mo, vol. 1.
- Elliott's Botany South-Carolina, etc.
- Morton's Synopsis Organic Remains, 8vo.
- Hamilton's Works (7 vols., 1852), vols. 1 and 2.
- Bolton's Westchester Co., vol. 1 or 2 vols.
- Baird's History Rye, Westchester Co., 8vo.
- Poole's Index to Periodical Literature.
- Updyke's History Episc. Church in Narragansett, etc., 8vo., N. Y., 1847.
- Natural History State New-York, set, incomplete set, or single vols.
- Pacific R. R. Reports, set, incomplete set, or single vols.

For Sale.

- Penny Cyclopædia, complete set, London ed., bound in 17 vols., hlf. mor., \$25.
- Pacific R. R. Reports, set 12 vols. in 13, 4to, cloth, \$16.25.
- Morton's Crania Americana, folio, cloth, 1834, \$40.
- Pacific R. R. Reports, single vols., \$1.50 to \$3.

DISSOLUTION.

THE Copartnership heretofore existing between Geo. A. Searcy and Julian C. Perkins, under the firm name of

G. A. SEARCY & CO.,

was dissolved by mutual consent, on the 15th of January, 1876.

G. A. Searcy assumes all liabilities of the late firm, and will collect all accounts.

G. A. SEARCY,
JULIAN C. PERKINS.

The undersigned would respectfully announce to his friends and patrons that he will continue the

BOOK AND STATIONERY

business at the old stand, with additions to stock and increased facilities.

G. A. SEARCY.

R. R. B., PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY OFFICE.

Report of the Commissioner of Education, 1875.
Another copy of Johnson's "Meaning of Words."

CATALOGUES WANTED.

CATALOGUES, Terms, etc., of all Manufacturers, Importers, etc., of Stationers' Goods desired by CHARLES H. JEHLE, care of Claxton, Remsen & Haffelfinger, Philadelphia. Three copies of each Catalogue.

BUSINESS FOR SALE.

AN old established Book, Stationery, and Wall-Paper Store in Jackson, Mich. Stock about \$15,000. A rare chance; only one other bookstore, and a population of 16,000. Address, M. W. Clark, Jackson, Mich.

PARTNER WANTED.

ARARE chance for a man with small capital. The leading and best paying Book and Stationery Business in an active city of twenty thousand inhabitants, for sale. Reason for selling, precarious health. Address, Box 1464, La Fayette, Ind.

BOOKS FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.

A. S. CLARK, Peekskill, N. Y., buys, sells, and exchanges shop-worn and second-hand School-books.

SECOND-HAND BOOKS FOR SALE.

P. A. WEBB & CO., HAVERHILL, MASS.

- 100 copies Guyot's Intermediate Geography, at 35 cents each.
- 50 copies Sargent's Fourth Reader, Part 2d, at 35 cents each.
- 50 copies Sargent's Fourth Reader, Part 1st, at 30 cents each.

A. J. BICKNELL & CO.'S

NEW BOOKS.

- Wooden and Brick Buildings. 2 vols. \$18 00
- Gould's American Stair-BUILDER. 4 00
- Guillaume, Interior Architecture. 3 00

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